Monarchak Thermal Power Project in Tripura

850. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far by the Government to set up thermal power project at Monarchak in Tripura;

(b) the present position of the project and the amount sanctioned for the project; and

(c) by when the project will be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) All the statutory clearances including the Techno-Economic Clearance for the setting up of Monarchak Gas Based Project in Tripura (280 MW) have been obtained. The Public investment Board in its meeting held on 7.5.2004 has considered and recommended the investment approval at a cost of Rs. 900.71 crores including IDC at February, 2004 price level.

(c) the project has been proposed to be installed within the Ten Five Year Plan. The first Gas Turbine is scheduled to be commissioned within 22 months from the date of placement of order and the last Steam Turbine within 32 months.

Funds for the Power project in Kerala

851. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has sought funds for the power projects in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government propose to allot funds, requested for;

(c) whether Government propose to allow private investments in the power sector;

(d) whether any such proposal received from the Government of Kerala is pending for sanction; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Planning Commission has not received any request from Government of Kerala for grant of any additional funds for specific power generation projects in Kerala.

However, the approved outlay for power sector for Annual Plan 2003-04 in respect of Kerala is Rs. 619 crore.

(c) to (e) Section 7 of Electricity Act, 2003 has allowed any generating company to establish, operate and maintain Thermal Generating Stations without obtaining license from the Government. However, any generating company intending to set up a hydro generating station shall prepare and submit to the Authority the intended project details for its concurrence. No proposal for setting up of a hydro power project in private sector has been received for approval of the Government.

Revival of BTPS

852. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's policy to revive the 240 MW Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (BTPS) by renovation and modernization;

(b) whether it is fact that CEA and NTPC had agreed to take over the BTPS but now they are reluctant to do so; and

(c) if so, what is the Government's concern about the fate of the BTPS?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (c) The responsibility for revival of 240 MW Bongaigaon Thermal Power Station (BTPS) by renovation and modernization lies with the Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB)/ Government of Assam. At present, there is no proposal to takeover the BTPS by Central Electricity Authority or by National Thermal Power Corporation.

System of power distribution in the country

†853.SHRI JANESHWAR MISH&A: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a grave situation of power distribution is gradually building up in the entire nation;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of power distribution in the country; and

(c) the steps proposed by Government for smooth functioning of power system and its sufficient availability in the country in future?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.